

In the Specification:

Please cancel the paragraph appearing at page 1, lines 10-12, and insert in its place the following new paragraph:

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7/29/03
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This is the United States national stage of ^IInternational ^AApplication PCT/US99/26062, filed November 5, 1999; which claims the benefit of the November 5, 1998 filing date of United States provisional application serial number 60/107,255 under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

In the Claims:

After entry of the annexes as requested above, please cancel Claims 62-73 and 75-81.

REMARKS

The specification and Claims have been amended by entering the annexes from the international stage of this application, as appended to the International Preliminary Examination Report. The reasons for the amendments reflected in the annexes (which were primarily formal in nature) appear in the 18 May 2000 Letter Concerning Article 34 Amendments, and the 9 November 2000 Amendment and Reply to Written Opinion, both of which were filed in the European Patent Office during Chapter II of the international phase of this application, and copies of both of which the undersigned would be happy to supply upon request if they are not readily available.

The specification has also been amended on page 1 to recite the history of this application, and to claim the benefit of the filing date of a prior provisional application under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

The Office is also advised that it is Applicant's intention to file an Information Disclosure Citation within the three-month "window" of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2). Should the Office take this case up for action before the Information Disclosure Citation has been placed in the file, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated.

The filing fees were calculated based on the Claims remaining after entry of the annexes, and after entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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